

October 16, 2006
Regular Session

Minutes

Members present

Brady Wooten- Chairman
Allen Sneed- Vice- Chairman
Leon Casstevens- Commissioner
Kim Clark Phillips- Commissioner
D.C. Swaim- Commissioner

Others Present

Eric Williams-Interim County Manager
Melinda Vestal-Clerk to the Board
James Graham-County Attorney

Chairman Wooten called the meeting to order. Attorney Graham had the invocation. Maris Bay, a 3rd grader from Courtney Elementary School, led the pledge of allegiance.

Public Comments

Michelle Laskus, Coordinator for the Virginia Daniels' Spay/Neuter Program, discussed the Spay and Neuter Assistance Program. The program provides free neutering and rabies shots for pet owners who cannot afford it. The money was donated specifically for this program by Ms. Daniels. The program, since June, has assisted 28 families. Ms. Laskus stated the program would continue until the entire \$60,000 is used. Ms. Laskus requested this information be put on the website along with acknowledging Ms. Daniels' donation.

Minutes

***Commissioner Sneed made the motion to approve the minutes with said changes. Commissioner Casstevens seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Water/Sewer-bids and update on various projects

Randy Darden, Arcadis, passed out bid tabulations for the Hwy 601 Water Main Extension and Jonesville Water Main to West Yadkin Elementary School. He commented the bids came back lower than anticipated. The low bid for the US Hwy 601 extension came in at \$293,291.25 from Yates Construction, Stokesdale, N.C. Mr. Darden made the recommendation to award Yates Construction the Hwy 601 Water Main Extension. Mr. Darden informed the Board that there may be some unused funds which the county could match if a project met the EDA requirements of being an economic interest with the money to be spent by March 2008. The concern is if the project exceeds \$100,000 then the additional project identified could not be addressed administratively as an addendum but would require resubmitting plans and specifications which would impact the ability to complete a project March 2008. Mr. Darden recommended the Board look for a project that would be below the \$100,000 threshold.

The Board discussed some possible projects that might meet the requirements.

Mr. Darden suggested the Board think about the extension to the concrete business and make a decision later.

***Commissioner Phillips made the motion to accept the bid of \$293,291.252 and award the project to Yates Construction with the approval of EDA and to allow Mr. Williams to sign off on the contract for Hwy 601 Water Main Extension. Commissioner Casstevens seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Mr. Darden presented the bid for the Jonesville Water Main to West Yadkin Elementary School with the extension to Starmount High School. The low bid came in from Sanford Contractors at \$2,549,557.75. Mr. Darden recommended the Board accept the bid from Sanford Contractors that would include adding 20 additional fire hydrants to the project to meet the requests of the local fire departments.

***Commissioner Swaim made the motion to accept Arcadis' recommendation and go with Sanford Construction in the amount of \$2,506,087.75 which would cover both the Hwy 21 and Starmount High School projects. Commissioner Phillips seconded.**

Chairman Wooten suggested waiting on the vote until the Board can speak to the Board of Education.

The Board and Mr. Williams discussed the well issue at Starmount High School.

The Board voted 5-0.

Mr. Williams presented a scope of services contract from Arcadis regarding the Jonesville Water Main and the Hwy 601 projects in the amount of \$160,000. He reviewed the services to be covered in the contract.

***Commissioner Phillips made the motion to approve the scope of services for construction inspections regarding the Hwy 601 and Jonesville Water Main projects. Commissioner Casstevens seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

The Board discussed upcoming sewer projects.

Mr. Darden reviewed the map regarding the sewer lines and pump stations.

Transportation-ROAP (Rural Operating Assistance Program)

Charlie Walker, Director of Transportation, presented the administration budget for the 2007/2008 ROAP.

***Commissioner Phillips made the motion to submit the application for funds plus the 35% of the proposed \$16,000 for the 2007/2008 fiscal year. Commissioner Swaim seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Social Services- Work First Plan

Mr. Williams presented the Work First Plan.

The Board had some questions and asked Mr. Williams to call Mr. Wooten, DSS Director, for some clarifications.

Chairman Wooten called for a break.

Mr. Williams spoke with Mr. Wooten regarding the unemployment rate, the Tier rating for the County and transportation issues. The deadline to submit the plan is November 1, 2006.

***Commissioner Casstevens made the motion to approve the Work First Plan subject to corrections as discussed. Commissioner Swaim seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Jail-public hearing

***Commissioner Phillips made a motion to set a public hearing on November 20th at 7:00 p.m. to receive public comments regarding a new jail. Commissioner Wooten seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Sheriff Cain presented the cost for the bullpens; under \$50,000. He requested the Board appropriate the funds. Judge Helms has approved the plan.

Commissioner Sneed made the motion to appropriate the \$48,987.67 for the bullpens. Commissioner Phillips seconded.

There was discussion regarding the first estimate and the comments made by the Judge.

Mr. Williams commended the Sheriff for his hard work and the Board should feel good about getting this done at such a reduced cost.

Chairman Wooten inquired about the other estimates.

Attorney Graham stated for a project under \$100,000 formal bids are not required, but informal bids are available to for the public's review.

The Board voted 5-0.

Tax Administration- tax refunds

		TOTAL
NAME/REASON	YEAR	REFUND
		AMOUNT
LISA HEMRIC	2006	\$134.02
1052 FAIRWAY DR		
YADKINVILLE NC 27055		
MH IS SW NOT DW		

***Commissioner Phillips made the motion to approve the refunds. Commissioner Swaim seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Sneed discussed the Jail Committee and who was appointed to serve on the committee. He stated that another person has placed herself on the committee without Board approval.

Mr. Williams stated there are times when other staff members may be needed.

Commissioner Phillips discussed the request presented by Ms. Laskus regarding updating our website with the information on the spay/neuter program.

***Commissioner Phillips made the motion to update the website with text approval from the Board. Commissioner Swaim seconded. The Board voted 4-1. Commissioner Casstevens opposed.**

Commissioner Phillips inquired about the \$450,000 to be cut from the budget. She suggested Chairman Wooten provide a list of suggested cuts.

Chairman Wooten suggested setting a workshop to discuss the budget.

Mr. Williams suggested waiting until the audit is completed.

Chairman Wooten stated he wants the budget issue resolved by November 1st.

Mr. Williams stated he would have information to present to the Board on October 26th.

Chairman Wooten inquired about solid waste issues.

Chairman Wooten discussed the General Statute that addresses the impoundment of dogs and cats. The Statute states an animal can be kept for a minimum of seventy-two hours (72) with reasonable efforts being made to locate the owner. He stated the county keeps non-adoptable animal for one hundred-twenty hours (120). He asked if the Board wanted to make any changes?

It was the consensus of the Board to leave as is.

Chairman Wooten inquired about a county-wide leash law.

Commissioner Swaim stated this has been discussed before but enforcing the law would be difficult.

Chairman Wooten stated that on December 7, 2004 a freeze was put on hiring. ***Commissioner Wooten made the motion to lift the hiring freeze. Commissioner Phillips seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Chairman Wooten commented the Manager can replace personnel as needed, move personnel around, make recommendations to the personnel policy and job duties, but he asked that changes be reported to the Board.

Chairman Wooten inquired about the Hwy 21 easements.

Ms. Vestal commented that as of today 31 had been received; there was approximately 105 mailed.

Chairman Wooten discussed the issues at the jail and indicated the jail is not the only facility with needs; most county offices are out of space. He is not against building a new jail but he does not feel we are moving in the right direction to handle these issues. He suggested letting the people vote to build a new jail or not.

Manager comments

Mr. Williams agreed the county does need long term facility plans.

Mr. Williams stated he received the draft financial statements regarding the audit.

Mr. Williams recognized John Bridgers, Land Records.

Mr. Bridgers stated the County was flown in 2002 and he is requesting the County do ortho-photos again. The best times to fly and take the photos are between January 10th and March 15th.

Mr. Williams stated the project would cost approximately \$100,000. There are 911 funds that could be used to help fund the project.

Mr. Bridgers stated there is \$18,000 available from a Homeland Security Grant, which could increase if other counties opt not to participate.

Mr. Bridgers discussed the advantages of the ortho-photos.

The Board asked why the previous photos were not paid with 911 funds.

David Matthews, Communication Director, reviewed how the photos would benefit the Communication Department.

It was the consensus of the Board to move forward with the project and asked that any additional information be brought back to them.

Mr. Williams discussed mergers regarding mental health and Crossroads.

Mr. Williams informed the Board that Mr. Segal had started his research on trying to find the county some cost savings.

Mr. Williams reminded the Board of the upcoming meetings; COG- Grady Hunter Excellence Award, Yadkin Valley Grape Festival, Jail Meeting, Candidates' Forum and a joint meeting with the Board of Education.

Attorney Graham stated that back in February the Board of Commissioners agreed to provide land for a Dialysis Center at the hospital. In 1999 the

County deeded 2.4 acres to the Town of Yadkinville to build a water tank. The YMCA was deeded 5 acres at the park from the State and with the understanding that a walking trail would be built behind the hospital. Now after speaking to the people who are trying to get the center located here, realizes there is not enough land to build. Attorney Graham suggested sending a letter to the Mayor asking for the land back since the water tank was built somewhere else (Billy Reynolds Road).

Mr. Williams agreed to send a letter to the Mayor asking for the land to be deeded back to the County.

Attorney Graham requested a closed session.

Closed Session

***Commissioner Phillips made the motion to go in closed session per G.S. 14-318.11(a)(3). Commissioner Swaim seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

***Commissioner Swaim made the motion to come out of closed session. Commissioner Phillips seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Adjournment

Commissioner Swaim made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Casstevens seconded. The Board voted 5-0.

Melinda Vestal, CMC
Clerk to the Board